considerable extent. So far as the Manjarabad Taluk is concerned, no increase in assessment should be sanctioned.

Dewan.—The question relates to 23 taluks and not to one.

Mr. Malali Venkataramaiya.—Conditions are more or less the same in other taluks also. Permanent re-settlement might be introduced instead of a temporary increase in assessment.

Mr. Thimmappaiya.—Re-settlement has been overdue in the Manjarabad Taluk for the past 10 years. The raiyats will have no objection if re-settlement is effected, and assessment increased, if necessary. But they cannot agree to the assessment being increased pending re-settlement. There is nothing in Section 112 of the Land Revenue Code authorising the Government to raise the assessment in the way now proposed either permanently or temporarily.

With regard to the conveniences that this taluk is said to be enjoying, I need hardly say that there are none at all. There are no lands near the provincial roads, and there are hardly any roads for even bullock carts to pass from one village to another. From year to year the yield in the lands is steadily decreasing. From a perusal of the accounts of the Taluk office, it will be seen that a large amount of revenue is outstanding, and the reason is that the condition of the raiyat is not what it was.

Superintendent of Survey.—Unless we study the details of each taluk, we shall not increase the assessment indiscriminately. As suggested the accounts will be gone through before action is taken.

Mr. Thimmappaiya.—We are the representatives of the taluk and we cannot agree to this proposal as it is not in the interests of the public. A Taluk Conference may be arranged and the opinion of the general body of raiyats taken before any increase of assessment is ordered.

Mr. Nanje Gowda.—The feeling of the raiyats is that they are not receiving the help that they were getting from Government in former days. The tanks which were so generously built in those days are either breached and never repaired, or filled with silt and thus rendered useless. I do not know of any tank which has been constructed by Government in recent years. Under these circumstances, I submit that no increase of assessment should be sanctioned without resettlement.

Dewan.—Government do not wish to force the scheme against the wishes of the people. As the general feeling is against the proposed increase of assessment, Government will have steps taken to bring resettlement into effect in the 23 taluks referred to instead of increasing the assessment in the way proposed.

SUBJECT NO. 4.

Re-imposition of fees in Middle Schools and Enhancement of fees in High Schools.

Note placed by Government before the Assembly.—At the time of abolition of fees in Middle Schools it was expected that the loss incurred by Government under fee income would be Rs. 1,08,758. Subsequently the aided agencies had also to be compensated for loss of fee income by a corresponding increase of grant and this involved an additional expenditure of about Rs. 50,000. The total effect of the abolition of fees has thus been a loss of about Rs. 1,50,000 per annum to the Government.

The improvement of Middle School education is one of the most important and urgent measures to be

under-taken for the progress of education generally in the State. It is on the one hand the final stage of education in the reach of the great majority of pupils, and on the other hand it is the foundation on which High School and University education is to be built up, and much of the inefficiency of higher education is due to the inefficiency of Middle Schools in the State. The staff and equipment of these schools are exceedingly unsatisfactory and the existence of various types of Middle Schools (Anglo-Vernacular, Vernacular, Rural Anglo-Vernacular, etc.) is a source of great confusion. The conversion of Middle Schools to one uniform type (Anglo-Vernacular) with better qualified and better paid teachers and better equipment is one of the most urgent measures of reform contemplated in the orders on the Education Memorandum. It was anticipated that the cost of introducing these reforms could be met from the resources mentioned in the Education Memorandum, *viz.*, *mohatarfa*, Local Fund General and Education Cess. But there has been considerable difficulty in realising these resources. Very little out of the *mohatarfa* and Local Fund General is available for being utilized for education, and an Education Cess (of half an anna in the rupee) has been agreed to only in two districts. The point for discussion is whether fees may be re-imposed in Middle Schools as a temporary measure, for three years, till the question of financing the reforms, if possible from other sources, is settled.

In the case of the High Schools also, accommodation has to be extended; equipment improved, the pay of the teachers increased, etc., under the orders already issued. The scale of fees in the High School and College classes in Mysore is much lower than in British India and in most of the Indian States as will be seen from the annexed statement.

It is therefore for consideration whether the fees in High School classes may be raised by Rs. 8 a year. Even after this proposed increase, the scale of fees will compare favourably with the scale in British India.

Comparative Statement of School fees levied in the various Provinces in India (given in rupees per annum).

Name of Province	Middle School Department			High School Department			
	Eng. III Class (Mys) or I Form (Madras)	A.-V. IV Class (Mys.) or II Form (Madras)	A.-V. V Class (Mys.) or III Form (Madras)	IV Form	V Form	VI Form	University Entrance Class or Junior Intermediate
Mysore	Free	Free	Free	24	28	32	48
Madras	1-8-0 (*a*) 22 (*b*) 6 (*c*)	1-8-0 22 6	1-8-0 22 6	42	42	42	94
Bombay	18	18	30	30	48	48	120
Central Provinces ...	12	12	12	36	36	36	90
Travancore	24	24	24	36	36	36	72
Cochin	16	20	24	32	36	40	64
Baroda	9 (*d*) 7-8-0 (*e*)	9 7-8-0	12 7-8-0	24 15	24 15	27 15	60 ...
United Provinces of Agra & Oudh.	12	24	24	36	36	36	80
Punjab	12	24	30	36	42	48	96
Bihar and Orissa ...	18	24	30	30	36	36	...
Coorg	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Hyderabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

(*a*) In Girls' School only.
(*b*) In Secondary Schools.
(*c*) In purely Primary and Middle Schools alone.
(*d*) Rates in City Schools.
(*e*) Rates in District Schools.

Discussion on the subject—Mr. C. Vasudeva Rao.—In my opinion it is not desirable to re-impose the school fees which have been abolished. We may remember the words of Lord Fisher who is one of the greatest men of the British Empire. He says that the education of a child should be the primary duty of the State and must be a legitimate charge upon the revenue of the State. This is in accordance with the democratic principle adopted in Western countries that equal opportunities should be afforded to every one to grow up to be a useful citizen. Our ideal is that even University Education should be free. The amount that is needed for the purpose of giving effect to the Education Memorandum is about three crores of rupees while the increase of income expected from reimposition of fees is hardly ½ % of the States' revenues which have increased now to Rs. 310 lakhs. I do not know how the small sum that may be recovered in the shape of school fees which is now proposed, will help Government in this respect.

When the question of reducing the secondary school fees came up for discussion in this Assembly last year, we were told by the then First Member of Council who was in charge of the Education portfolio that our representations would be favourably considered.

Such being the case, we cannot understand how it is contemplated to reimpose school fees which were abolished at the desire and pleasure of His Highness the Maharaja with the object of educating all classes of his subjects irrespective of religion, caste or creed. I may refer to the *dharma* of kings in the ancient days and plead that Government should not revoke their pledged word in the matter of abolishing fees. It is not desirable to impose or raise the school fees.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao.—It was believed that it was at the command of His Highness that education up to the middle school grade was made free. It is not long since this policy was declared and a reimposition of fees so soon thereafter would argue want of foresight and consistency. If fees are imposed the poor parents would not care to send their children to schools. It is hard for them to earn their livelihood and as such how is it possible for them to educate their children; If the present proposal is brought into force it would certainly retard the progress of education in the State.

Mr. Gopalaswami Iyer.—I am the Secretary of about ten aided schools in the Bangalore City. I do not think much good has come out of the abolition of school fees. Children of all ages flock to the schools and the result is that the classes become unmanageable and it cannot be expected that children are much benefited by merely going to schools because there can be no efficient teaching owing to this abnormal attendance in the schools. It is not desirable to flock children in this way. Hence it is necessary there should be some restriction in the form of fees.

We know what lot of money is spent in Germany and other countries for the purpose of education, and it would be better if the same principles are adopted here. The parent who paid fees was interested in his boy being educated so that he may become an earning member of the family. But the present system of free education has

made him very indifferent, and thereby the education of the child suffers very much. Hence I think it would be better if fees are imposed, and at the same time the number of freeships and scholarships increased with a view to encourage deserving boys.

With regard to the raising of the school fees in High schools there is no justification for this proposal. The salaries of the staff in High schools and Colleges in the Madras Presidency are very high and cannot be compared to the very low salaries that are being paid to our teachers here.

Hence the analogy of the rates of fees in Madras is misleading, and I think the High school fees need not be raised as proposed now.

Mr. Usman Khan.—It was promised by Government that the income derived from the Income Tax would be utilised for educational purposes. I think there would be no difficulty to give effect to the educational reforms if they only do as promised.

Mr. Suryanarayana Rao.—If the present proposal is brought into force, it means that Government itself is putting a big block in the way of the education of the children of the State. I will have no objection to the raising of fees in the High school classes but no fees should imposed in the lower classes. The lower classes may be called the feeders to the High schools. The number of boys in the high schools will certainly decrease with the education of fees in middle schools. Further many of the aided schools were closed since they could not be provided with funds, in addition to the many private schools also which were closed for the same reason. Without introducing any reform as the one like the Education Memorandum, it would have been much better if Government had given more encouragement to the private schools. By this way the education of the children of the State would have been accelerated to a great extent. I think it is not desirable to have any change of policy so soon.

Mr. Vema Reddi.—Before the present system was introduced the difficulties of the poor to educate their children were very great, and the attendance in schools was very limited. Though there were children who were anxious to prosecute their studies and who were most capable and intelligent they were forced not to go to schools on account of the poverty of their parents who were not in a position to pay 6 or 8 annas a month as school fees. Thus the education of the children suffered very much under the old system. These considerations forced the Government to abolish the school fee system. The present proposal would certainly be a hardship to the poor people, and the education of their children will suffer very much.

It was His Highness's gracious pleasure to grant the concession in question in order that the subjects of the State might be benefited, and the present proposal to withdraw what has been granted is not desirable and would not be welcomed.

Dewan.— The matter has been discussed at sufficient length. Government have understood the general sense of the Assembly on this subject and they do not desire to force a measure that the Assembly is not in favour of.